

BS030116

U.S. Application No. 10/648,621 Examiner CHIN SHUE, Alvin C. Art Unit 3634
Response to Jan 26 2005 Office Action

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

[c01] (Currently Amended) A torso harness, comprising:

a safety belt for wrapping around the waist of a person; and

a single strap for forming a left and a right leg loop, the single strap having a first end secured to the safety belt and a second end secured to the safety belt, the single strap also having a first clasp sliding along the single strap, the single strap for pulling between the legs of the person and up through the groin area, the first clasp securing to the safety belt, the single strap thus forming the left and the right leg loop; and

a groin protector sliding between the left and the right leg loop, the groin protector reducing injury from an impact to the groin area, the groin protector comprising at least one groin pad having a breathable, outer covering and a stuffed inner region, the groin pad having at least one loop through which the single strap inserts, the at least one loop attached to the outer covering by threads and by rivets, the groin pad also including a rigid back plate with at least one integrally molded hinge allowing the rigid back plate, and thus the groin pad, to conform to the curvature of the technician's leg.

[c02] (Cancel)

[c03] (Currently Amended) A torso harness according to claim 2 1, wherein the groin protector also comprises a rigid cup-shaped body and an outwardly extending eyelet, the single strap inserting into and through the eyelet.

[c04] (Original) A torso harness according to claim 1, further comprising a second clasp sliding along the single strap, the second clasp also securing to the safety belt, the single strap thus forming the left and the right leg loop.

[c05] (Cancel)

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[c06] (Original) A torso harness according to claim 1, wherein the single strap comprises a segment of elastic cordage.

[c07] (Currently Amended) A torso harness, comprising:

a safety belt for wrapping around the waist of a person; and

a left and a right leg loop attached to the safety belt, the left and the right leg loops formed of a single strap, the left and the right leg loops for insertion of the corresponding legs of the person; and

a groin protector sliding between the left and the right leg loop, the groin protector reducing injury from an impact to the groin area, the groin protector comprising at least one groin pad having a breathable, outer covering and a stuffed inner region, the groin pad having at least one loop through which the single strap inserts, the at least one loop attached to the outer covering using threads and rivets, the groin pad also including a rigid back plate with at least one integrally molded hinge allowing the rigid back plate, and thus the groin pad, to conform to the curvature of the technician's leg.

[c08] (Original) A torso harness according to claim 7, wherein the groin protector slides along a strap secured between the left and the right leg loop.

[c09] (Currently Amended) A torso harness according to claim 7, wherein the groin protector also comprises a rigid cup-shaped body and an outwardly extending eyelet, the single strap inserting into and through the eyelet.

[c10] (Cancel)

[c11] (Cancel)